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SECTION 21

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DocId: 92789742 Page 2

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FBI/DOJ



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## FEDERAL BUREAU\*OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. 20535 October 6, 1978

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

# HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

On September 27, 1978, SA John T. Aldhizer III, Congressional Inquiry Unit, FBIHQ, telephonically advised that the House Assassinations Committee desired to interview Special Agent (SA) John J. McBreen, Washington Field Office as soon as possible regarding investigative leads covered by SA McBreen during the MURKIN investigation while assigned to the Miami Division.

On September 23, 1978, Mark A. Speiser, Staff Counsel, Fouse Assassination Corrittee, House Puilding Annex #2, Vachington, D.C. (VDC), interviewed SA McBreen. After furnishing background information such as name, date of birth, howe address, etc., Speiser inquired as to the length of assignment in Nieri and type classifications worked. It was pointed out to Speiser that although he was assigned to the Accounting Squad, SA McBreen worked exclusively Civil Rights Matters, particularly "police brutality" type violations. After discussing these matters briefly, Speiser displayed a photocopy of a Miami teletype bearing the initials JCM. The teletype reported a contact with a Mr. Surperfield (ph), who, according to Speiser, was a former Eureau and local police department informent, now deceased. SA McBreen disclaimed any knowledge of the teletype message and further identified his Fureau initials as JJM. With this disclosure, the interview was terminated.

JH2283

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11.1

DERAL GOVERNMENT

The Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division

Attention: Mr. Robert Keuch

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Long - Enc.

1 - Mr. Foster - Enc. 1 - Mr. Mintz - Enc.

October 18, 1978

2 - Mr. Coulson - Enc.

1 - Mr. Heller - Enc.

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

In accordance with Attorney General Order 116-56, this memorandum advises that Special Agent John J. McBreen of the Washington Field Office was interviewed September 28, 1978. A memorandum setting forth Mr. McBreen's account of this interview is enclosed for your information.

Enclosure

1 - Personnel file - John J. McBreen - Enclosure

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# **UVERNMENT** emorandum

The Director

TO

FROM

SUBJECT:

UNITED STATES DEP. ... F JUSTICE FEDERA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Legal Counsel Division

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

REIN IS UNUINCESTATED

1 - Mr. Boynton 1 - Mr. Mintz

1 - Mr. Adams

9-28-78

1 - Mr. Moore 1 - Mr. Ingram

1 - Mr. Best 1 - Mr. Bassett

1 - Mr. Foster 1 - Mr. Colwell

2 - Mr. Coulson

1 - Mr. Heller

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise of the receipt of a letter from captioned Committee alleging that the Bureau improperly handled information furnished by the Committee.

DETAILS: By letter dated 9-26-78 (attached) to the Attorney General, Attention: Judge Webster, G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director\_ofcaptioned Committee stated that the Committee furnished information to the Bureau concerning "possible physical harm" to two Committee witnesses / and information regarding the planning of a bank robbery. He alleged that during the course of the Bureau's interviews with Oliver Patterson, Jr., and Clarence Haynes they were advised that the Committee was the source of the information furnished about them. The letter from the Committee states that Patterson alleges that he was told by the Special Agents interviewing him that the Committee was the source of the information and that Clarence Haynes was also in danger. The Committee further alleged that contacts were made with media representatives by the FBI stating that the Committee was the source of the information furnished and regarded the information as frivolous.

It is to be noted that the Committee advised Patterson that the Bureau would contact him prior to his contact by the interviewing Agents.

REC-262-119290 Mr. Blakey believes that these allegations endangered their source and suggest "that serious errors in professional judgment have occurred."

Z4 OCT 27 1978 The attached letter from captioned Committee was orally acknowledged by SA Ronald Heller, Legal Counsel Division, on 9-27-78 Mr. Blakey was advised that an inquiry was being made and subsequent contact would be made with him concerning his allegations.

RECOMMENDA?	CIONS:	1
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1970 U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan NW 55039 DocId:32989742 Page 5

Memorandum from Legal Counsel Division to The Director House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) U.S. House of Representatives

2. It is requested that Mr. Boynton interview employees in the Press Office concerning the allegations that contact was made between the  $\mathcal{V}^{\circ}$ Bureau and media representatives in Washington, D. C., regarding the information the Committee furnished. An affidavit is requested from any employee who was in contact with media representatives regarding the above.

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It is requested that Assistant Director Moore personally interview employees in the Criminal Investigative Division who had knowledge of this information furnished by the Committee. Affidavits are to be furnished by any employee having similar media contact. Affidavits are to be obtained from Special Agents Krahling and Carey as to any media contact on their parts and as to whether in their telephone calls on 8-2-78 to the St. Louis, Springfield and Kansas City Offices they orally cautioned these Offices not to attribute the information to the Committee. It is to be noted that teletypes referencing these telephone calls contain such a precautionary statement.

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It is requested that Assistant Director Mintz interview employees in the Legal Counsel Division who had knowledge of this information

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It is recommended upon the completion of the above inquiry that Associate Director Adams have a conference with Mr. Blakey regarding this matter.

pr	APPROVED:	Adm. Serv. Crim. Inv.	Legal Coun. M M
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# *Temorandum*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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DATE: 10/20/78

FROM

TO

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: The Director '

SUBJECT:

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# PURPOSE

To record the fact that personnel of the Public Affairs Office that communicate with the press have been interviewed in connection with an alleged leak of information.

# DETAILS

I have talked to the following members of the Public Affairs Office who deal with the press concerning the allegation of Mr. G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director of the HSCA. The allegation of Mr. Blakey is that contact was made between the Bureau and what he describes as "trusted acquaintances in the media" in Washington who informed Mr. Blakey that information concerning a committee witness had been leaked to the media

> Thomas B. Coll T. J. Harrington David E. Cassens Stephen D. Gladis Jeffrey W. Maynard

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All of the above, as well as myself, deny we leaked any information concerning this matter to anyone at any time, including members of the media in Washington, D. C.

#### RECOMMENDATION

. For information.

1 - Mr. Best 1 - Mr. Adams

1 - Mr. Mintz: 1 - Mr. Bassett 1 - Mr. Foster 1 - Mr. Moore

1 - Mr. Colwell 1 - Mr. Ingram

1 - Mr. Heller 1 - Mr. Coulson

1 - Mr. Boynton

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FM KANSAS CITY (175-64)

TO DIRECTOR (62-117290) ROUTINE

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CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT ATTENTION: DIVISION HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU

OF INVESTIGATION

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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RE FBIHQ TELETYPE DATED OCT. 19, 1978. - 1246

BY LETTER TO ALBANY DATED OC. 28, 1977, CAPTIONED "DESTRUCTION OF FIELD FILES AND RECORDS", FBIHQ ADVISED ALL FIELD OFFICES THAT NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAD GRANTED APPROVAL FOR THE FBI TO REDUCE THE RETENTION PERIOD FROM TEN YEARS TO. FIVE YEARS FOR CLOSED CRIMINAL FILES MAINTAINED IN FIELD OFFICES.

THIS FIELD FILE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM WAS MANDATORY.

KANSAS CITY. IN COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATED FILE DESTRUCTION PROCEDURES. DESTROYED KC FILE 137-4907 ON Assoc. Dir. Dep. AD Adm.

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JAN. 7, 1978, SINCE THIS CRIMINAL FILE HAD BEEN CLOSED

FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS.

SAC BILL D. WILLIAMS, NOW ASSIGNED TO MIAMI, WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSURING THAT MANDATED FILE DESTRUCTION WAS CARRIED OUT INCLUDING THE CRIMINAL INFORMANT FILE IN QUESTION CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING INSTRUCTIONS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FM SEATTLE (66-2940) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI (62-117290) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA).

RE BUREAU TELETYPE, OCTOBER 23, 1978.

AIRTEL WITH ORIGINAL WAIVER AND FD-302 FOLLOW.

GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON INTERVIEWED IN WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 27, 1978, AND WAIVER OBTAINED. PREVIOUS SEATTLE FILES RE EDMONDSON 88-5458, DESTROYED OCTOBER, 1973, AS A RESULT OF DESTRUCTION PROJECT; AND 137-1589 DESTROYED FEBRUARY, 1978, ON DESTRUCTION PROJECT PER BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS JANUARY 17, 1978.

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WNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*emorandum* 

RICHARD E. LONG : Assistant Director

Administrative Services Di

DATE: 11/2/78

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Legal Counsel

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

# PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise of the request made by captioned Committee that Daniel E. Brandt (former SA) and John L. Duffy (SA, Criminal Investigative Division, FBIHQ) be released from their employment agreement in order that they may be interviewed by captioned Committee in connection with the FBI's investigation into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

### DETAILS:

By letter dated 10/24/78 (copy attached), G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel and Director of captioned Committee, requested that Daniel E. Brandt (former SA, Milwaukee Office) and John L. Duffy (SA, Criminal Investigative Division, FBIHQ) be made available for staff interview concerning their investigation into the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The above former and present employees, prior to being interviewed by the Committee staff, will be contacted by a representative of the Legal Counsel Division who will advise them of their release from their employment agreement and will provide them with a briefing as to the scope and limitations of the interview.

Enclosure

1 - Mr. Bassett (Enclosure) Attention: Mr. Foster

1 - Mr. Mintz (Enclosure)

- 1 Personnel File of Daniel E. Brandt (Enclosure)
- 1 Personnel File of John L. Duffy (Enclosure)
- 2 Mr. Coulson (Enclosure)
- 1 Mr. Heller (Enclosure)

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(CONTINUED - OVER)

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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum to the Assistant Director Administrative Services Division Re: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

The original of the letter from captioned Committee was sent to Mr. Robert L. Keuch, Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

The remaining requests set out in the referenced letter will be responded to by the Congressional Inquiry Unit, Records Management Division, FBIHQ.

# RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

Mr

, gr

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APPROVED:

ED: Adm. Serv. Crim. Inv.\_

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COURS STOUTS ONIO

Richardson Preyer, M.C.
Walter E. Fauntroy, D.C.
Yvónne Brathwaite Burke, Calif.
Christopher J. Dodo, Conn.
Harold E. Ford, Tehn.
Floyd J. Fitnian, Ind.
Rodert W. Edgar, Pa.

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SAIL CL L. DEVINE, OND STEWART B. MCKINNEY, CONN. CHARLES THONE, NEBR. MAROLD B. SAWYER, MICH.

Ree. C10 10-25-78

(202) 225-4624

Select Committee on Assessinations
U.S. House of Representatives
1369 House office Builds: ANNEX2
WASHINGTON, D.C. 2515

October 24, 1978

The Honorable Griffin B. Bell Attorney General of the United States Department of Justice Washington, D. C. 20530

Attention: Mr. Robert Keuch

Deputy Assistant Attorney General Criminal Division, Room 2013

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

In connection with the investigation by this Committee into the circumstances surrounding the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is requested in regard to the following matters:

- 1) Prepare for delivery, copies of the fingerprint cards taken during the course of the MURKIN Investigation for the following:
  - a) James Earl Ray
  - b) Gerald William Ray
  - c) John Ray
- 2) Photographic copies of the following identified by the MURKIN "Q" numbers:
  - a) Q-405 (Indian Trails payroll check)
  - b) Q-398 (Indian Trails payroll check)
- 3) Make available for telephone interview:
  - a) S.A. John L. Duffy (Racine)
  - b) S.A. Daniel E. Brant (Milwaukee)

Your prompt attention is greatly appreciated

Sincerely,

J. Model Color

G. Robert Blakey

Chief Counsel and Director

GRB:ghb
cc: Ron Heller
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ENCLOSURY (2-117290-17//



# DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM



5 CONTINUATION SHEET PAGE PAGETATWORDE HQ DD51 UNCLAS E F T O DIVISION, BY NOVEMBER 9, 1978. ANY ITEM CONTAINED IN FILES 20 WHICH CANNOT BE READILY REPRODUCED SHOULD BE FULLY DESCRIBED IN 18 COVER PAGES OF AIRTEL TRANSMITTING MATERIAL. BT 16 DO NOT TYPE PAST THIS LINE 14 12 10 DO NOT TYPE MESSAGE BELOW THIS LINE

TELETYPE FM DIRECTOR FBI
TO FBI ST. LOUIS

RE: HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS {HSCA}.

NOTE: ACCORDING TO INVENTORY, ST. LOUIS KING SECURITY FILE

CONSISTS OF TWO VOLUMES, 173 SERIALS. DEADLINE

ISSUED IN VIEW OF HSCA REQUEST FOR RECEIPT OF MATERIAL

PRIOR TO PUBLIC HEARINGS WHICH COMMENCE 11/7/78.

TELETYPE CONFIRMS TELEPHONIC INSTRUCTIONS TO ASAC

JOHN SHANLEY OF ST. LOUIS AT 10 A.M. ON 11/6/78.

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ENCLOSURE

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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	10/31/78	
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Date of transcription		

GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON was contacted at his home, Route 2, Box 179, Walla Walla, Washington (509-525-2126), where he is living under the assumed name of ALEX P. BORMANN and employed by the Boise Cascade Company.

EDMONDSON was advised of the Bureau policy requiring its own Waiver for the release of information and that such a Waiver would authorize the Bureau to release all information concerning him, even that which had previously been considered confidential. EDMONDSON acknowledged that he understood the Bureau policy and specifically stated that it was his understanding that his 1959 confidential FBI file would be released to the House Select Committee on Assassinations, if so requested.

EDMONDSON also expressed concern that the House Select Committee on Assassinations would not be able to maintain proper control of the information in his file, pointing out that investigators for the Committee, to whom he has spoken, appear to be a little young and lacking in experience. EDMONDSON stated, however, that he would continue cooperate with the Committee, and executed the following Waiver authorizing release of information:

## "AUTHORITY TO RELEASE INFORMATION

"I hereby authorize any Special Agent or other authorized representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation bearing this release, to furnish to the House Select Committee on Assassinations all information in its possession concerning me, including those records pertaining to my confidential relationship with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I realize that by authorizing this release I will disclose to the House Select Committee on Assassinations any confidential relationship I may have had with the FBI.

"/s/ George Ben Edmondson "27 Oct 78

/s/ Witness:	Robert A. Ibbotson Special Agent Federal Bureau of In	nvestigation"	
Interviewed on10/27/	78_o+Walla_Walla,	Washington # SE 66-2940	
by SA ROBERT A.	IBBOTSON / ecf	Date dictated10/30/-78	

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription		_	

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"/s/ George Ben Edmondson
"27 Oct 78

ALL INFO MINOR CANADA ALL IN

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#### AUTHORITY TO RELEASE INFORMATION

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George Ben Edmondson

AAAP

Witness: <

Robert A. Ibbotson

Special Agent

Federal Bureau of Investigation

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Dep. AD Adm.

Dep. AD Inv.

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HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS (HSCA)

RE BUREAU TELETYPE DATED OCTOBER 23, 1978.

REVIEW OF ALBANY INDICES DISCLOSES THAT ALBANY FILE (88-4373) PERTAINING TO GEORGE BEN EDMONDSON WAS DESTROYED FEBRUARY, 1977. THIS FILE WAS DESTROYED PURSUANT TO THE FILE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM PERMITTING DESTRUCTION OF NON-

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